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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Foley ORIGINAL DATE 2/8/2007
LAST UPDATED _____ HB 891
SHORT TITLE ENMU Network for Professional Development SB _____
ANALYST McOlash

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY07	FY08		
	\$185.0	Recurring	General Fund

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Duplicates SB 660 and HB 696.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Public Education Department (PED)
Higher Education Department (HED)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 891 appropriates \$185,000 from the General Fund to the ENMU Regents for expenditure in FY 2008 for the College of Education and Technology to provide professional development for teacher through distance education.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$185,000 contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the General Fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY 2008 shall revert to the General Fund.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The Higher Education Department reports on the ENMU Program for Teacher Professional Development (PTPD) as a project that provides short, experiential, and onsite professional development modules through distance education delivery and hybrid courses.

The courses are open to all licensed or certified teachers with a concentration on eastern New Mexico. Professional development courses will include a comprehensive curriculum ranging from the Reading First program, No Child No Left Behind requirements, and Core Knowledge. ENMU currently offers few professional development courses through distance education which benefits K-12 teachers in rural, isolated communities of New Mexico.

Components of the PTDP project include:

- Qualified instructors would come from area expert practitioners or teacher education faculty interested in alternative modes of instruction and who have the expertise in the specific areas;
- Each module would contain material to satisfy at least one graduate credit hour seminar;
- The intent of the graduate work would be to compile enough credits to equal (2) 3 credit hour courses allowable in selected degree programs;
- Course timeframes would vary due to flexibility of the distance education and hybrid courses; and
- The ENMU College of Education and Technology has experience in designing and implementing the model due to the success of the NMPED approved Onsite Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) endorsement and iSafe professional development programs.

This request was not submitted by ENMU to HED for review and is not included in the Department's funding recommendation for FY08.

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

Teachers in eastern New Mexico have limited access to professional development. The success of the current courses reflects the high demand for professional development to be taught through distance education. Distance education courses provide accessibility to the K-12 rural schools.

BM/mt